

The Colonies by 1763—A New Society?

The writing assignment below will help you to fit together some of the ideas you have learned about colonial America and also to see how the sections of a well-organized essay relate to each other. It should prove to be a useful tool for reviewing for the Advanced Placement examination or a final examination in your history class.

Listed below in scrambled order are the thesis, the plan of attack, and four topic sentences for the paragraphs of the body of an essay on differences between the mother country and the American colonies in 1763. You should be able to determine the sequence of each of the sentences in a well-organized essay. A thesis defines the central argument in any essay. A plan of attack states the method of organization to be used in the paper. In this essay, the thesis and the plan of attack together form a simple introductory paragraph. You may wish to add transition words or phrases for greater clarity.

Using this foundation for the essay, complete the paper. Each paragraph of the body should include a clear description of the English practice, at least two specific facts explaining how the colonial practice differed from that of the mother country, and an attempt to account for the differences between England and the colonies. End the paper by writing an appropriate conclusion that summarizes your points and draws a logical conclusion about their significance for the future development of the country, in light of the British victory in the French and Indian War in 1763.

Scrambled Sentences

- a. Changes in religion, economics, politics, and social structures illustrate this Americanization of the transplanted Europeans.
- b. In a similar economic revolution, the colonies outgrew their mercantile relationship with the mother country and developed an expanding capitalist system on their own.
- c. Building on English foundations of political liberty, the colonists extended the concepts of liberty and self-government far beyond those envisioned in the mother country.
- d. Between the settlement at Jamestown in 1607 and the Treaty of Paris in 1763, the most important change that occurred in the colonies was the extension of British ideals far beyond the practice in England itself.
- e. By 1763, although some colonies still maintained established churches, other colonies had accomplished a virtual revolution for religious toleration and separation of church and state.
- f. In contrast to the well-defined and hereditary classes of England, the colonies developed a fluid class structure which enabled the industrious individual to rise on the social ladder.